

ABSTRACT

The present invention provides recombinant antigen-binding regions and antibodies and functional fragments containing such antigen-binding regions that are specific for CD38, which plays an integral role in various disorders or conditions. These antibodies, accordingly, can be used to treat, for example, hematological malignancies such as multiple myeloma. Antibodies of the invention also can be used in the diagnostics field, as well as for investigating the role of CD38 in the progression of disorders associated with malignancies. The invention also provides nucleic acid sequences encoding the foregoing antibodies, vectors containing the same, pharmaceutical compositions and kits with instructions for use. The invention also provides isolated novel epitopes of CD38 and methods of use therefore